

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. A data processing method for processing data
to be supplied to an ink jet printing apparatus,
5 wherein the ink jet printing apparatus can perform a
marginless printing that forms an image on a print
medium up to the edges of the print medium by,
according to print data, ejecting ink onto an area
inside the edges of the print medium and onto an
10 overrunning area outside the edges, the data
processing method comprising:

a waste ink volume obtaining step to obtain a
value equivalent to a waste ink volume associated with
the marginless printing; and
15 a data sending step to send to the ink jet
printing apparatus data representing the value
equivalent to a waste ink volume obtained by the waste
ink volume obtaining step.

20 2. A data processing method according to claim 1,
wherein the waste ink volume obtaining step obtains
the value equivalent to a waste ink volume associated
with the marginless printing for every page of the
print medium or for every predetermined print area,
25 and

the data sending step sends successively to the
ink jet printing apparatus data representing the value

equivalent to a waste ink volume determined by the waste ink volume determining step for every page of the print medium or for every predetermined print area.

5 3. A data processing method according to claim 1, wherein the waste ink volume obtaining step obtains the value equivalent to a waste ink volume associated with the marginless printing for every predetermined print area and accumulates the values equivalent to
10 waste ink volumes for individual predetermined print areas, and

the data sending step sends to the ink jet printing apparatus the accumulated value equivalent to waste ink volumes obtained by the waste ink volume
15 obtaining step.

4. A data processing method according to claim 1 or 2, wherein the waste ink volume obtaining step counts the number of waste ink dots ejected onto the
20 overrunning area outside the edges of the print medium to obtain the value equivalent to a waste ink volume associated with the marginless printing.

5. A data processing method according to claim 1,
25 wherein the waste ink volume obtaining step obtains the value corresponding to a size of the printing medium.

6. A data processing apparatus for supplying data to an ink jet printing apparatus, wherein the ink jet printing apparatus can perform a marginless printing that forms an image on a print medium up to the edges of the print medium by, according to print data, ejecting ink onto an area inside the edges of the print medium and onto an overrunning area outside the edges, the data processing apparatus comprising:

10 a waste ink volume obtaining means to obtain a value equivalent to a waste ink volume associated with the marginless printing; and

 a data sending means to send to the ink jet printing apparatus data representing the value

15 equivalent to a waste ink volume obtained by the waste ink volume obtaining means.

7. A data processing apparatus according to claim 6, wherein the waste ink volume obtaining means

20 counts the number of waste ink dots ejected onto the overrunning area outside the edges of the print medium to obtain the value equivalent to a waste ink volume associated with the marginless printing.

25 8. A program for controlling an ink jet printing apparatus, wherein the ink jet printing apparatus can perform a marginless printing that forms an image on a

print medium up to the edges of the print medium by,
according to print data, ejecting ink over a range
from an area inside the edges of the print medium to
an overrunning area outside the edges, the program
5 causing a computer to execute

a waste ink volume obtaining step to determine a
value equivalent to a waste ink volume associated with
the marginless printing; and

a data sending step to send to the ink jet
10 printing apparatus data representing the value
equivalent to a waste ink volume obtained by the waste
ink volume obtaining step.

9. An ink jet printing system having an ink jet
15 printing apparatus and a host for supplying print data
to the ink jet printing apparatus, wherein the ink jet
printing apparatus can perform a marginless printing
that forms an image on a print medium up to the edges
of the print medium by, according to print data,
20 ejecting ink over a range from an area inside the
edges of the print medium to an overrunning area
outside the edges,

the host comprising:

a waste ink volume obtaining means for obtaining
25 a value equivalent to a waste ink volume associated
with the marginless printing; and

a data sending means for sending to the ink jet

printing apparatus data representing the value
equivalent to a waste ink volume obtained by the waste
ink volume obtaining means;

the ink jet printing apparatus comprising:

5 an ink receiving member for receiving waste ink
ejected onto the overrunning area outside the edges of
the print medium during the marginless printing; and

an accumulated value memory means for
cumulatively adding up data representing the values
10 equivalent to waste ink volumes sent from the host and
storing an accumulated value equivalent to waste ink
volumes ejected onto the ink receiving member during
the marginless printing.

15 10. An ink jet printing system according to
claim 9,

wherein the ink jet printing apparatus further
comprises:

a decision means for checking whether the
20 accumulated value stored in the accumulated value
memory means has exceeded a predetermined value; and

a sending means for sending warning data to the
host when the accumulated value exceeds the
predetermined value;

25 wherein the host further comprises:

an error display means for, according to the
warning data sent from the ink jet printing apparatus,

displaying on a screen an indication that the ink jet printing apparatus is in an error state.

11. An ink jet printing system according to
5 claim 10, wherein, in the error state in which the accumulated value exceeds the predetermined value, at least one of the ink jet printing apparatus and the host performs at least one of a displaying of the error and a disabling of the operation of the ink jet
10 printing apparatus.